

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9-13, 14, 15, 17-19, 22, 23, 26-30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 38, 39 and 42-47 have been amended and claim 50 has been added somewhat similar to claim 1. Claims 1-50 are pending. Claims 1, 17, 18, 34 and 50 are independent claims and claims 2-16, 19-33, and 35-49 are dependent claims. Reconsideration of claims 1-50 is respectfully requested.

The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9-13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 26-30, 34, 35, 38, 39 and 42-46 have been amended to replace "if" with "when" in response to the Examiners comments at item 6 on page 6 of the Office Action.

I. OBJECTION TO CLAIM 32:

As mentioned above, claim 32 has been amended. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to claim 32 is respectfully requested.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-49 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER HUXTER (US PATENT APPLICATION NO. US2002/0107820) IN VIEW OF YANG (US PATENT APPLICATION NO. US 2002/0072945):

The present invention as recited in claim 1, relates to a method of processing physical distribution information comprising "receiving and registering schedule information, regarding forms of receiving a package addressed to a customer member...the schedule information comprising at least one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period" and "when a shipment request is received...determining a delivery form" and "generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the delivery form". Claims 18 and 34 recite similar limitations therein.

In addition, the present invention as recited in claim 17, relates to a method of processing physical distribution request comprising "sending a central server a delivery request of a package" and "receiving a result notice of delivery scheduling, comprising information that

the package is undeliverable, from the central server that determined the delivery scheduling...comprises a time range that the receiver is unavailable for receiving packages”.

Huxter discloses in FIG. 1, a system and method for delivering goods ordered online to an automated collection point (i.e., a electronically-operated locker). A single courier delivers the goods to automated collection points. The deliveries are segregated into groups and each group of deliveries is assigned to a distinct automated collection point. The groups are selected so that the customers corresponding to each group reside within the vicinity of the corresponding collection point (see Abstract). Upon receipt of the package by the automated collection point, the customer will automatically be sent a message containing notification of the delivery including a numeric code for opening the locker (see paragraph [0017]).

The Examiner admits that Huxter fails to disclose the schedule information comprising at least one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period, as recited in claims 1, 18 and 34.

In addition, Huxter fails to disclose all of the features as recited in claim 17. Specifically, Huxter discloses at paragraphs [0255] and [0256], delivery to the customer's home if there isn't any availability at any collection point near the customer's home and the customer's account indicates that the customer has given permission of home deliver. Huxter does not disclose “a time range that the receiver is unavailable for receiving packages,” as recited in claim 17.

The Examiner asserts that Yang discloses the deficiencies of Huxter. However, the Applicants respectfully disagree.

Yang discloses in FIGS. 1 and 2, a mobile pickup station (MPS) delivery system. The MPS system uses pickup stations in the form of vehicles or movable kiosks used in conjunction with the internet to provide convenience for a buyer to pickup products ordered. The MPS is stationed along a buyer's frequent commuting route so that the buyer can pickup products at the stations when traveling without spending time traveling to the stores to pickup products (see paragraph [0035]). The MPS server sets a station time as the time range a MPS stays at the pick up point and the buyer comes between that time range to pickup the buyer's products. The MPS server sends a reminder to the buyer to remind the buyer that the buyer has an order to pickup (see paragraphs [0060] – [0062]).

Unlike Yang, the present invention discloses "receiving schedule information, regarding forms of receiving a package addressed to a customer member, from a terminal of the customer member," as recited in claim 18.

However, neither Huxter nor Yang, individually or combined, disclose all of the features are recited in claims 1, 17, 18 and 34 from which claims 2-16, 19-33 and 35-49 respectfully depend. The combination of Huxter and Yang fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. Therefore, claims 1-49 patentably distinguish over Huxter in view of Yang. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claims 1-49 is respectfully requested.

III. CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore, defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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